

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Congo

Government To Withdraw From U.S. Banking Group

AB0908172395 Paris AFP in French 1014 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brazzaville, 9 Aug (AFP) — Finance Minister Guila Mougounga Kombo has announced that the Congolese Government has decided to withdraw authorization to the American banking group, Lambert, to take over the former Congolese Commercial Bank [BCC].

Speaking before the National Assembly yesterday in Brazzaville, the minister accused the Lambert group of not respecting the protocol agreement signed last October.

The activities of the new bank were to begin on the condition that a guarantee was deposited in a Congolese bank by the Lambert group. This guarantee has not been deposited, it was learned from reliable sources.

The agreement between the Congolese Government and Lambert provided for the creation in January 1995 of a new bank, the International BCC-Congo, which was expected to take over the assets of the erstwhile BCC.

The main commercial bank in Congo, the BCC went bankrupt in 1992. The Lambert group was to employ 300 of its 600 wage earners. Following the breakdown of the agreement with Lambert, the government has begun paying severance allowances to the personnel, Mr. Mougounga added. The BCC will then be liquidated.

Gabon

Angola's Dos Santos, Savimbi Expected To Meet

LD1008093195 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 10 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] There is some confirmation of the latest summit between Dos Santos and Savimbi. The first one took place in Lusaka on 6 May. A meeting may take place today in Gabon. The Gabonese presidency remains silent, but the press is more loquacious. Assane Diop reports from Libreville:

[Diop] This morning, L'UNION, the Gabonese progovernment daily, dedicates its entire front page to the meeting between Dos Santos and Savimbi. This shows that the discretion the Gabonese authorities wanted to observe about this initiative as a precaution has not held up for long.

President Omar Bongo has been on the spot in Franceville since yesterday. He will be joined this morning by President dos Santos, who will be coming

from Luanda, and by Jonas Savimbi, who will be coming from Cote d'Ivoire.

The Angolan head of state and the leader of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] have not met since their meeting in Lusaka on 6 May. A meeting scheduled between the two men last June did not materialize, partly because of security reasons invoked by Savimbi.

Gabon says that the two Angolan leaders are expected under President Bongo's auspices in Franceville to finalize the Angolan peace accords signed in Lusaka on 22 November. Details of power sharing between UNITA and the MPLA [Marxist Movement for the Popular Liberation of Angola], the party in power in Angola, are also expected. Among other things, Savimbi will have to state clearly whether or not he accepts the vice presidential post he has been offered, an offer which does not seem to have met unanimous approval within UNITA.

Rwanda

Foreign Minister Returns From Belgium, Comments

EA1008105295 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 0445 GMT 10 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Dr. Anastase Gasana, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, returned to Kigali from Brussels yesterday. Minister Gasana had been on a week-long visit to Belgium, where he was invited by his Belgian counterpart to discuss the modalities of relaunching bilateral cooperation and friendly relations, especially development and cooperation aid, which Belgium had suspended after the Kibeho incident in April. According to Minister Gasana, his talks with Belgian authorities were frank and sincere. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Gasana recording] [passage omitted] We also discussed the idea of a regional conference on refugees in the subregion which has been proposed by the United Nations. I had the opportunity to tell our Belgian partners that we had the Nairobi conference, at the end of which the Nairobi plan on the repairiation of refugees was signed, and the subsequent Bujumbura action plan, which was a follow-up of the Nairobi plan. As far as we are concerned, we can only accept a conference that will bring financial and material support for the Nairobi and Bujumbura action plans for the repatriation of refugees. [passage omitted] [end recording]

On the relaunching of Rwandan-Belgian cooperation, Belgium pledged aid worth 800 million Belgian francs to our country. [passage ommitted]

Djibouti

Somaliland Border Troops Placed 'On Alert'

AB0908185095 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 9 Aug 95

[From the African news]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Government of Djibouti has placed its troops on alert along the border with the breakaway Republic of Somaliland in response to fighting there between rebels and government forces. Djibouti Defense Minister Ahmed Boulaleh Barreh said the government wanted to ensure that the fighting in Somaliland did not spill over the border. He said Djibouti was not involved in the conflict, and urged both sides to settle their differences peacefully.

Fighting has intensified in northwestern Somaliland over the past few weeks, as the forces of Somaliland President Mohamed Egal push rebels from the United Somali Front toward the Djibouti border.

Ethiopia

Citizens Urged To Check Foreigners' Papers

EA0908204095 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The police central office has urged Ethiopians who rent out their houses to foreigners to submit their lease agreements to a court for registration. Individuals who rent out their houses and vehicles to foreigners should check and register their name and passport number, see if the foreigner has a valid visa and legal entry permit, and inform the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Interior, added the office. [passage omitted]

Entry Regulations Tighten After Mubarak Attack

EA0908211095 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 9 Aug 95

[Statement issued by Police Headquarters; date not given — read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] It is through strengthening the comprehensive participation of the people and having people contribute toward respect for the law that we can maintain the country's peace, stability, and social security. [passage omitted]

The investigations into the attempted assassination of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on 26 June concluded that some individual businessmen, by contravening legal directives in force, indirectly contributed to the execution of the crime.

People made a great contribution by giving tip-offs and information to the police who were investigating

the attempted assassination, by terrorists, of President Husni Mubarak, who came to our country to attend the Organization of African Unity heads of state summit, however, a few businessmen put aside their legal obligations and in various ways helped the terrorists, by putting their financial gain ahead of the peace and security of their country and people. They entered into illegal agreements with foreigners, and rented out houses and vehicles without checking the legal position of the foreigners and without reporting to the relevant government authorities, thus helping a crime that would harm the country and its people to be committed.

If we look at our country's laws about relations with foreigners with regard to their travel documents, the issuance of visas and the registration of foreigners, Decree No. 13 of 1961 states: Hotel owners, lodge owners, or individuals dealing with such institutions have an obligation to inform the government about agreements they enter into with foreigners.

Article No. 17 of the same decree states that any individual who, knowing that a foreigner does not have a legal permit to enter or leave Ethiopia, assists any foreigner and cooperates with any foreigner shall be committed to both imprisonment and a cash fine. [passage omitted]

While the laws are clear on renting cars to foreigners, of those who rented out four vehicles and four houses to those terrorists, only one car renter took a passport from the terrorists — the other car renters or house renters rented the vehicles and houses without any security for their country or even their own property, lured by financial gain, as the investigation found. [passage omitted]

Muslims To Partake in Islamic Council Election

EA0908224895 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network in English 1030 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Members of the Muslim community in Addis Ababa have said that some of the problems that cropped up among the Muslim community were being successfully tackled.

They said divisions among the community are being overcome and adherents of the Islamic faith have expressed readiness to take part in the election of the Islamic Affairs Supreme Council. Mr. (Wuhib Ture) a member of the community said that Muslims are bracing to establish their genuine religious organization by overcoming previous divisions. [passage omitted]

Around 1,000 Refugees Return From Djibouti

EA0908204795 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network in English 1030 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Representatives of the Ethiopian refugees from Djibouti say 1,000 Ethiopian refugees have returned to Dire Dawa by train.

The returnees, who stayed over 10 years in Djibouti, said they have planned to become self-sufficient citizens in their locality by taking advantage of the prevailing peace and democracy in the country. The returnees from Harshim, Babile, Kebri Dehar, Jijiga, Fedis, and Gursum Districts left for Djibouti following war and drought in their respective areas and were engaged in various activities in Djibouti.

Somalia

Aidid Reportedly Promises Elections in 1998

AB0908212095 Paris AFP in English 1451 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, Aug 9 (AFP)

— Warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid on Wednesday [9
August] promised national elections for Somalia in
1998.

The pledge, in a speech marking the birthday of the prophet Mohamed, was taken by observers as an implicit plea for recognition of the "government" he set up after his supporters elected him "interim president of Somalia" in June.

That title is also claimed by north Mogadish warlord Ali Mahdi Mohamed, however, and General Aidid is just one of many warlords disputing control of this lawless Horn of Africa nation, which has been without a central government since the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in January 1991.

No foreign country recognises any faction as Somalia's government, and its chair remains vacant at the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations.

The government to be elected in 1998 would eliminate "injustice, corruption and insecurity" for the following three years, Aidid said.

Insecurity remains a major problem in south Mogadishu, with different sectors controlled by Aidid's militiamen, now dubbed his "national army," by those loyal to Ali Mahdi, and by those loyal to Osman Ali Hassan "Atto," Aidid's former financier.

On Tuesday, one man was killed and several others were wounded when Aidid militiamen tried to loot a consignment of the narcotic shrub khat at a south Mogadishu intersection.

Other Aidid militiamen — they are not paid — grabbed a 40-litre (10-gallon) container of camels' milk from a woman, and yet others were seen beating up a bus driver after he collided with a battle-wagon.

Aidid ally Mohamed Qanyare Afrah meanwhile charged in a statement that fake Somali banknotes were being smuggled into the country to destabilise it, but did not accuse any faction or specify the amount involved.

Ali Mahdi and Osman Atto last month accused Aidid of having four million dollars' worth of Somali shillings printed.

Counterfeit Money Reportedly Printed in Libya

EA0908213195 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1700 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Sayid Ali Abdulleh Dini, the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] secretary for finance, has called on Somalis everywhere to be wary of the fake money being illegally smuggled into the country by unscrupulous individuals who don't care about the suffering of the people or their belongings. He said these people want to rob the people of their assets to realize their selfish interests, and to create chaos and confusion in the commercial system of the country, in order to prevent political and economic stability and security.

Mr. Sayid Ali Abdulleh Dini, speaking about the problems the fake money could create, said that it led to skyrocketing inflation and a lack of confidence in investments, due to insecurity. It also led to a bad name for the Somali people.

He added that the fake money was being printed in Libya, Italy, and India, and was printed and imported by former employees of the Somali Central Bank.

USC-SNA Calls For Release of Pakistani Prisoners

EA0908192095 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A statement released by the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] said it is very sorry about the suffering in Somalia of 12 Pakistani seamen and one Palestinian man.

The statement reads as follows: On 8 June, a boat sailing off the coast of the Shebeellaha Hoose region went down with 13 seamen on board — 12 Pakistanis and one Palestinian. These seamen needed to receive humanitarian and Muslim help, and to make contact with their countries and international aid agencies and families. Instead they were imprisoned by the self-styled

group, who kept the world ignorant about their fate. It is believed that these seamen are being held hostage for economic and political reasons.

It is confirmed that they are not being taken care of in prison, and are still wearing the same clothes they were captured in. The USC-SNA, being sorry about this, calls on the self-styled group to immediately set these suffering people free. They are also asking the Somali community to contribute towards freeing these illegally held prisoners.

Uganda

Prime Minister Musoke Pays Visit to Iran

EA0908224595 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr. Kintu Musoke, has invited Iranian entrepreneurs to take advantage of the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government's liberal investment policy by investing their capital in the Ugandan economy.

Addressing managers of a number of key Iranian industries at the Ministry of Industry boardroom in Tehran, the prime minister told them that Uganda's investment code guarantees security for all investors and offers generous tax holidays. Mr. Kintu Musoke, on the second day of his official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, said exemption from payment of corporation tax for up to six years, duty free importation of machinery, and easy transfer of profits and dividends, are some of the glaring incentives that await any foreign investors in Uganda.

The prime minister said investment opportunities exist in agricultural production, manufacturing, food processing, textiles, construction — especially in housing and assembly of house equipment [as heard] — motor vehicles and electronics, and in gold and iron mining. He also said tourism and the service sector were also suitable areas. [passage omitted]

Commentary Views 'Irony' in ANC-U.S. Relationship

MB0908121595 Pretoria Radio Pretoria in Afrikaans 0520 GMT 9 Aug 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today's theme: "The Wheel Turns Against the United States." It is generally accepted that the U.S. Government has had a greater influence on the course of events in South Africa than South Africans themselves. South Africans believed all along that they had been exercising their democratic rights in elections held since the 1970s. Even then, Dr. Henry Kissinger, renowned protagonist of the New World Order, said that South Africa would be taken over by a black government in 1995. He missed it by only one year.

While millions of white and black South Africans trusted their political leaders to protect them from communism, South Africa had been moving closer to communism over the past 20 years. This process would not have been possible without cooperation among the United Nations, the U.S. authorities, and the international media. These groups have been remarkably unanimous when it has come to South African issues. Add to this the thousands of foreign and domestic organizations aimed at dismantling apartheid, and one wonders how the apartheid system survived so long.

There is no doubt that the antiapartheid campaign would not have succeeded without U.S. support. Subsequent U.S. ambassadors and presidents felt it their moral duty to bring the so-called white minority South African Government to its demise. Of course they succeeded, and that is where the irony begins. Their protege, the ANC, has now turned its back on the United States. Iran has been invited to store oil in South Africa. U.S....[1 minute break in transmission]

One would think that the United States would get more respect from an organization that they have so generously funded — and supported. But it would appear that the United States obviously does not understand Africa. The continent will grab what it gets and make threats when it does not get enough. Gratitude is out of the question. The United States must understand that the Third World harbors an underlying vengeance against First World prosperity. A comparison can hardly be made between First World living standards, dedication, expertise, and creativity and Third World laziness and deterioration.

How does a small island like Taiwan, without any natural resources except hard-working people, get it right and build a world-class economy, while the mineralrich, agriculturally blessed African countries epitomize decline, corruption, and in many cases genocide?

The ANC government will only welcome the United States as long as that country supplying aid. The ANC's foreign policy is clearly geared to follow in the footsteps of Third World countries and others that do not have ties with Western governments.

The U.S. flag was burned during recent protest marches in Durban, Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Kimberley. This never happened under the so-called apartheid government that the United States was so determined to undermine.

The United States will have to alter its way of thinking about the ANC-controlled South Africa. The ANC will not dance to its tune like the old National Party, which would have sacrificed anything for U.S. acceptance.

We have ultimately learned two things. One is that a country does not have friends, only interests. The other is that those abroad who have worked so hard for the ANC's new South Africa do not have to live with the tragic results of their diligence.

Swazi King Arrives for First State Visit

MB0908153295 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1523 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria Aug 9 SAPA — Swaziland's King Mswati III arrived at Waterkloof Air Force Base near Pretoria at 4.35 on Wednesday afternoon for his first state visit to South Africa. His Royal Swazi Fokker 100 touched down about 35 minutes late. He and one of his wives, LaNgangaza, were greeted on the tarmac by President Nelson Mandela and his niece, Rochelle Mtirara.

Arms Smuggling Pact To Be Signed

MB1008085895 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0851 GMT 10 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria Aug 10 SAPA — An agreement which could help curtail the smuggling of arms into South Africa is to be signed with Swaziland, Presic ent Nelson Mandela said on Thursday.

"Crime syndicates don't respect boundaries," he said, adding: "The only way of controlling their movements is to ensure that the police on both sides co-operate."

Mandela was addressing reporters at his official Pretoria residence after meeting Swaziland's King Mswati III.

Freedom Front Leader Outlines Party Interests

MB0908174495 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1649 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pietersburg Aug 9 SAPA — Afrikaner self-determination and group rights were the Freedom Front's [FF] most important interests, even if this meant distancing itself more from the National Party [NP], Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen said on Wednesday.

"Unity, especially political unity, is a daydream as long as the NP tries to exceed itself as a liberal party based on the concept of individual liberalism."

Reacting to recent news reports that the Freedom Front and NP would not fight each other during local government elections, Viljoen said this had happened only in a few communities. "We have declared ourselves willing to enter into co-operation if all other parties would participate, but both the NP and Conservative Party have rejected this proposal.

"I can not imagine such co-operation."

Viljoen said his party would continue trying to create greater Afrikaner unity by focusing on issues such as education, self-determination and cultural preservation.

South African Press Review for 10 Aug MB1008101195

[FBIS Editorial Report] THE STAR

Too Much Goodwill - Referring to President Mandela's planned visit to Betsie Verwoerd, wife of former South African Prime Minister H. F. Verwoerd, in the Afrikaner homeland of Orania, Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 10 August in a page-18 editorial says "we have come to know that the extent of President Mandela's charitability is dazzling." However, "many people are raising their hackles at what they see as an overdose of St Nelsonism. Where, ask the growing ranks of the disillusioned, are the benefits of liberation?" Although reconciliation "costs nothing," and is an attitude that "in more ways than are currently visible paves the way for far more development than would happen if the whites were growling and plotting," there are nevertheless, "those humble citizens who see the new nation unfolding as a love affair between the new establishment and its old oppressors, leaving themselves forgotten in the cold." THE STAR believes the nation's white population, "the recipients of so much warmth, might

reciprocate by despatching a more conspicuous warmth of their own in the direction of the black multitude."

SOWETAN

New Legislation To Deal With Criminals — "Because of the abolition of the death penalty, as well as the apparently lenient approach to bail on the part of the courts, a perception is quickly taking root that the law is concerned more about the rights of criminals than those of law-abiding citizens who are being terrorised by crime," notes a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 10 August. Therefore, many South Africans will welcome the proposed new legislation that "will make it possible for the courts to put murderers and violent criminals in jail for life — literally."

Economy Owned by Foreigners — A second editorial on the same page warns that if foreign investment "continues in the way it is going at the moment, we could end up with significant sections of our economy being owned by foreigners. And that is a situation that does not augur well for South Africa in the long-term." SOWETAN points to the deal struck by National Sorghum Breweries, NSB, with United Breweries of India which "virtually gives control of NSB to cash-flush Asians." "If foreign businessmen gobble up significant sectors of our economy, the blame will fall not just on our new and inexperienced government as a whole, and Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel in particular, but on us all."

BUSINESS DAY

State Power Over NGO's Funding — "The days of 'apartheid bookkeeping', spawned by conditions of secrecy, are mercifully over, and NGOs [Non-Governmental Organizations] should not be surprised if they are asked to motivate and account for donor money," says a page-18 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 10 August. However, the "general state audit" Minister Without Portfolio Jay Naidoo seems to be suggesting is "a case of overkill." "If it is as protracted and bureaucratically intricate as other government 'consultative' processes, useful organisations could simply wither on the vine." Therefore, BUSINESS DAY believes there are "distinct dangers in giving the state absolute power over the funding of NGOs."

Angola

Santos Departs for Gabon To Meet UNITA's Savimbi

MB1008071495 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0700 GMT 10 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Jose Eduardo Santos left for Franceville, Gabon, this morning, for a second meeting with Jonas Savimbi. President Santos made no statements to journalists before he left. During his visit, Santos will award the Agostinho Neto Order to Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

Mines, Debris Delaying Deployment of UN Troops

MB0908182795 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1814 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Luanda Aug 9 SAPA — Uncleared land mines, blown-up bridges and congestion at a United Nations transit camp in Angola's capital Luanda have delayed deploying Zimbabwean troops as part of the UN monitors to Angola's fragile peace process, the news agency ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] reported on Wednesday.

Zimbabwean commanders had to revise their camp locations because of the large number of uncleared mines and impassable bridges in their area of responsibility in Angola's north-eastern provinces of Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul, Malange and Cuanza Sul. Zimbabwean commander Lt-Col Clever Nkala said: "There are certainly going to be changes in terms of quartering our troops. Some of the places we were supposed to enter have been discarded because of administrative problems.

"Most of the bridges have not been repaired and the roads have not been cleared of mines."

A Brazilian contingent — to have cleared mines ahead of the Zimbabweans — have like the rest of the UN programme falled behind schedule, Nkala said. UN military spokesman Major Baptist Alwyn said the Zimbabwean troops would spend at least 10 days at the Luanda transit camp before moving to their areas of deployment. The camp was congested because part of an Indian contingent had remained there even though 505 Zimbabwean soldiers were still expected on Wednesday.

Zimbabwe has joined Brazil, Bangladesh, Zambia, India, Uruguay, Argentina, Portugal, Romania and Britain to provide troops and support services to the nearly 7,600-strong UN force to oversee Angola transition to peace after nearly 20-year civil war. The deployment followed last November's peace agreement between the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of An-

gola] government and the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] in Zambia's capital Lusaka.

FAA Reportedly Seize UNITA-Controlled Areas

MB0908140195 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] units based in Caluquembe took Vila Branca in Huila Province by storm on 8 August. The town was under the jurisdiction of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. Two FAA battalions, three BT-2 [as heard] armored vehicles, and three vehicles equipped with guns took part in the operation. Huila commander Colonel Luis has already reported the matter to the UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-3.

Reports just in say that as part of their destabilization policy, FAA forces took Negola in Huila Province by storm on 8 August in a violent attack launched from Chivulo. Sources say the UNITA military command in Huila Province expects Unavem-3 to take urgent measures because, quote, UNITA combatants' patience has limits, unquote.

Meanwhile, Benguela residents demonstrated on 9 August, asking FAA forces to end their military operations against civilian targets. The demonstration comes in the wake of an attack by government forces against Calucumbe Square, Chivuca area, on 3 August during which FAA soldiers burned houses, stole property, and abducted five civilians. On 4 August, FAA soldiers stationed in Caimbambo took the Bungua farm by storm. On 6 August, government forces based in Lobito took Culango by storm, under the pretext of carrying out minesweeping operations.

FAA Major Domingos Chiuca intends to take Lomaum by storm with the backing of two battalions. The operation will be assisted by the FAA General Staff.

Malawi

Riot Police Clash With Workers Nationwide

MB0908160895 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 9 Aug 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The strike by civil servants in Malawi is turning nastier. They want big pay rises; the government says there is no money. Thousands of government employees came out a week ago. They defied government threats of dismissal; now they are defying orders to stay away from government buildings. There have been clashes with riot police, rampages,

and running battles in the country's main cities. From Lilongwe, Willy Zingane telexed this report:

It has been a tough day for thousands of striking civil servants in Malawi. It was a day of confrontation with the riot police in the cities of Blantyre, Mzuzu, and Lilongwe. Following a series of violent incidents yesterday when striking workers resorted to stoning any official vehicle, the government issued a warning last night that there should be no more public demonstrations. A government spokesman ordered the strikers to gather at community center halls and not at government offices as they have been doing over the past four days.

This morning, the strikers went back to their original assembly points, only to find armed riot police already in position. In the capital, Lilongwe, riot police chased striking workers who refused to obey orders. It was like watching cats running after rats. The riot police threw tear gas at those who would not leave the area peacefully. I saw one striker being beaten by five riot policemen outside the Ministry of Education. After that, some strikers went on the rampage, stoning any vehicle with the Malawi Government registration number. The situation in the cities of Blantyre and Mzuzu has been the same. The confusion is due to the absence of the union leaders who have travelled to Blantyre for a crucial meeting with government representatives, but there has been no breakthrough in the negotiations. Union leaders are still insisting that the government give civil servants higher wages, but the government has come out clearly to tell the striking workers that it does not have the money to implement new salary structures.

Zambia

UNIP's Kaunda Says Government Tried To Kill Him

MB0908190495 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] UNIP [United National Independence Party] President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda has accused the government of trying to assassinate him. Dr. Kaunda said in Lusaka today that he had evidence that the government wants to kill him. He told a news conference that the latest attempt was made on 6 August when he went to the international airport to receive his wife. Dr. Kaunda said that security officers wanted to fly him to Ndola to effect an arrest, adding that the real intention was to inject him with a lethal (?liquid) [word indistinct]. He said that the assassination plots have the full blessings of President Chiluba. Dr. Kaunda said that there are also plans by the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] to engage in violence in the forthcoming by- elections just to tarnish the image of UNIP.

But the government has denied that there is a plot to assassinate Dr. Kaunda. Chief government spokesman Mr. Amusa Mwanamwamba says there is no plot to kill Dr. Kaunda. He told ZNBC [Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation] in Lusaka today that the claims by Dr. Kaunda are a fabrication. Mr. Mwanamwambwa was reacting to claims by Dr. Kaunda that the government wants to eliminate him. The government spokesman said that Dr. Kaunda is merely trying to make some political mileage through such announcements. He said that as far as the government is concerned, Dr. Kaunda is a political nonentity and a spent force. Mr. Mwanamwambwa also denied claims by Dr. Kaunda that the government received the Gabon plane crash report. He said that the report is not yet in and the government will inform the people when all details are available.

Zimbabwe

State's Policies 'Tarnished' International Image MB0808113895 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 20 Jul 95 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Zimbabwe's tarnished international image has largely been self-inflicted by a government with confused priorities and unclear policies, exacerbated by an inward-looking private sector, FINANCIAL GAZETTE executive editor Trevor Neube said on Monday [17 July].

Speaking on Zimbabwe's international image at the Dataworld stockmarket conference, Ncube said foreign correspondents and reports by institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Economic Intelligence Unit gave the world a negative view of Zimbabwe. "I must stress here and now that it does not matter whether we agree with the image projected of us. The important issue is that this is how the world sees us and the onus is on the government to act differently in the hope of gaining a favourable image."

The world generally saw Zimbabwe as a pseudodemocracy because of the government's inability to accept dissent from members of its own party, political opponents and independent newspapers. "It is clear to the international community that the aim of the authorities is to rule by fear," Ncube said adding: "We need more openness, more tolerance and less rule by fear."

He said continued use of the title 'comrade' and the government's choice of friends like North Korea, Cuba and China while it pursued capitalist economic policies sowed confusion among international investors and gave foreign reporters good copy.

The black economic empowerment programme had been left to drift resulting in Zimbabwe's white minority being portrayed as under siege. As in the McGown case where government did nothing in response to attempted intimidation of court proceedings, the impression created overseas is that of flawed governance.

Comparisons were now being drawn between the country's conduct and that of South Africa with Zimbabwe inevitably always coming out worse off, Ncube said, citing the persecution of gays here and the constitutional provisions for the right to sexual preference in South Africa.

Corruption was being allowed to poison the investment climate and in the process scaring off scarce international investment. Confusion on the privatisation of state assets was another area perplexing international investors, Ncube said, pointing to the non-existence of a policy framework.

Country's Budget for 1995-1996 Viewed

MB0908093495 Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL in English 4 Aug 95 pp 38-40

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A 40% cut in capital spending—and sharply higher consumption taxes—will halve Zimbabwe's budget deficit in 1995-1996, provided Finance Minister Ariston Chambati can keep control of recurrent spending.

The omens are not good. Last year, to June 30, government overshot its spending targets by almost a quarter, though Chambati blames this on a one-off "cleaning up exercise" of the vote of credit. This is the fund used as a conduit for donor lending to Zimbabwe for development projects.

On Chambati's calculations — which differ from those in the official financial statements released after the budget last week — the budget deficit of Z\$7bn (Z\$820m)[Zimbabwean dollars], 13.4% of GDP, will fall to Z\$4.3bn this year (6.7% of GDP).

Privatisation — the sale of shares in State-owned industrial conglomerate Delta Corporation — brought in Z\$525m and Chambati's budget suggests only another Z\$300m will be raised through privatisation this year. However, economists believe that this is a minimum figure and additional sales of government assets would be used to fund spending overruns or even repay some debt.

In the current year to June 1996, government revenue will rise more than

20% due to:

 A 2.5% rise in sales tax, which applies to most retail transactions,

to 15%:

- An 11% rise in petrol duty, 70% in diesel fuel duty;
- A new 5% tax on electricity consumption, and
- A 26% average electricity tariff hike, announced in June. In all, the budget will take out 2\$3bn (nearly 5% of GDP) in extra taxes in the coming year, while spending falls 8% (5% of GDP) in real terms.

As always, the success of the budget hangs by the slender thread of fiscal discipline. The country's record is dismal, and Chambati will have to change the public sector's corporate culture. He has not started well, threatening to use a stop-payment facility at the finance ministry — implying suppliers may not be paid when ministries overspend, unless they demand payment upfront — and appealing to the parliamentary watchdog, the Select Committee on Accounts, to help curb spending.

Nor has the opaque presentation of the budget, with numerous discrepancies between the ministerial statement and the published numbers, created confidence.

The post-budget comment by permanent Secretary of Finance Charles Kuwaza — that business should stop "moaning and groaning" and get on with the job — outraged some in the private sector. They point to horrendous government overspending and surging interest costs that now exceed 10% of GDP and 29% of the budget.

Indeed, interest charges of Z\$6.5bn, and an education budget of Z\$4.6bn, absorb almost half of total spending.

The war of words with SA [South Africa] escalated when Chambati imposed a 10% increase in duties on imported vehicles and batteries. He also announced 15%-25% increases on imports of drink and tobacco, mainly from SA, largely for revenue purposes.

Business welcomed the reduction in capital gains tax—to 20%, from 30%— and the decision to allow exporters to deduct 200% of export market development expenses for tax purposes.

There was no mention of the IMF or World Bank and the fact that many of the IMF's suggations for the budget — a switchover to VAT [value-added tax], harmonising customs and excise duties, lowering tariffs rather than raising them, further liberalising exchange controls — were ignored may not help Zimbabwe regain access to IMF lending. However, should Chambati manage to rein in public spending and bring the budget deficit down dramatically, then Zimbabwe should be back in the IMF's good books by mid-1996. The fund

needs to see a track record of performance, which is where culture reversal must start.

Budget Deficit Reportedly at \$3.6 Billion

MB0908152095 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 28 Jul 95 p 8

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Zimbabwe Financial Holdings [Finhold] has estimated the budget deficit outturn for the 1994/95 fiscal year to be around \$3.6 billion [Zimbabwe dollars], over 2.5 times the government's projection of \$1.4 billion.

In its just released Quarterly Guide to the Economy Finhold said the high budget deficit was due to government's assumption of parastatal debts of \$4.245 billion in January and the provision of food handouts through the Grain Loan Scheme.

"In view of this, we estimate the budget deficit outturn for 1994/95 fiscal year to be around \$3.6 billion, which is over two and a half times the budget estimate of \$1.4 billion," said the financial house.

According to available statistics for the first 10 months, the deficit was financed from domestic sources, particularly from banks. Net bank borrowings during this period amounted to \$4.747 billion.

Government's net borrowings from banks has actually reduced its net indebtedness to the domestic non-bank and to the foreign sector during this period.

Finhold said this resulted in money supply growth of 30.7 percent in April although it had decelerated from 36.9 percent in January this year to 28.7 percent by March.

"Such high rates of growth in money supply will continue to keep the rate of inflation high," the financial institution said, adding that other inflationary pressures would come from increases in electricity tariffs and salary and wage increases this month.

On options for the government to address the high deficit, the financial house said there was need for deep-rooted reform to control expenditure levels in the public sector.

"This entails measures to enforce strict expenditure checks and to increase the efficiency levels in both the civil and public sector."

Allocation for Defense Rises to \$2 Billion

MB0908152895 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE (BUDGET supplement) in English 28 Jul 95 p B1

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vote allocations for the Ministries of Education, Defence, Finance, Health and Child Welfare, Home Affairs and Higher Education constitute 74.6 percent of the total recurrent expenditure for the fiscal year 1995/96, Finance Minister Ariston Chambati has said.

He told parliament yesterday [27 July] votes for the six ministries constituted 74.6 percent of the total recurrent expenditure excluding constitutional and statutory provisions and subsidies.

Of the total recurrent expenditure, the Ministry of Education and Culture remained at the top of the list receiving \$3.7 billion [Zimbabwe dollars], accounting for 26.3 percent.

Primary education would benefit the most with an allocation of \$2.3 billion although salaries, wages and allowances received a large chunk of the total allocation. Over \$2 billion was allocated for this purpose.

Secondary education also received a boost taking \$1.2 billion. Salaries, wages and allowances also dominated. The Ministry of Defence got \$2 billion, an increase of close to \$140 million. The Zimbabwe National Army got \$1.58 billion while the Airforce of Zimbabwe received \$395.8 million.

Much of the allocation to the Airforce would be taken up by the procurement of aircraft, maintenance, modification and running costs of \$192 million.

Due to the recommended salary and wage increase of civil servants and the job evaluation exercise, the Ministry of Finance has jumped several positions to become the third highest ministry in the vote allocation. The allocation jumped by over 176.8 percent.

Compared to \$573 million allocated in 1994/95 budget, the ministry got away with \$1.583 billion. Of the total allocation, \$1.3 billion was set aside as "unallocated reserve" with incidental expenses coming second with a total allocation of \$102.8 million.

Representing 17.1 percent of the total recurrent expenditure was the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare which got \$1.354 billion that includes \$20 million for the Child Supplementary Scheme.

Slicing a large chunk from the allocation would be salaries, wages and allowances for medical practitioners. Over \$461 million was put aside for that while \$290 million was meant for supplies and services.

The Ministry of Higher Education which is currently beset with student protests due to inadequate grants had its allocation increased by a meagre 18 percent to \$922 million. Grants marginally increased from \$448.4 million to \$490 million.

Salaries, wages and allowances for staff increased significantly from \$98 million to \$135.5 million due to the recently announced increases in their remunerations.

Least of the top six votes was the Ministry of Home Affairs which got \$894.9 million with most of the allocation going towards the Zimbabwe Republic Police which received \$736.7 million. Of this \$507.5 million was set aside for salaries, wages and allowances.

Inflation Predicted at 24.6%

MB0908152795 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE (BUDGET supplement) in English 28 Jul 95 p B1

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government said yesterday [27 July] the country's inflation will rise to above 24.6 percent by the end of year, a projection that, for the first time in years, ties in with private economists' forecasts

Finance Minister Ariston Chambati told parliament yesterday inflation was expected to drop to 16.6 percent by June 1996 if good rains fall and the economy recovers.

Zimbabwe's annual inflation was measured at 19.9 percent in June this year, its fourth consecutive monthly drop after peaking at 24.4 percent in February this year.

"Due to the tariff increases in power, anticipated salary adjustments and general review of prices, inflation is expected to be on an upward trend for the last half of 1995," Chambati said presenting the 1995/96 budget.

Unbridled government spending has been blamed for the country's high inflation which has in the main been contained by tight monetary policies used by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe. This has resulted in high interest rates that have inhibited private sector investment and employment creation.

Ex-Bank Governor Forms New Trade, Investment Bank

MB0908154195 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1445 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Harare Aug 9 SAPA — A new trade and investment bank, headed by Zimbabwe's former Central Bank governor, Dr Kombo Moyana, has been formed to offer external short-term and commodity loans to the fledging exporting sector, ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] news agency reports.

The bank obtained its licence on July 20, and would formally start trading on September 1. So far, it has created employment for 21 people. The Trade and Investment Bank Ltd, whose chairman is former senior Minister of Finance Dr Bernard Chidzero, would also offer a wide range of other banking services to both local and regional companies, Moyana said in Harare on Wednesday. Moyana said specialist assistance would also be given to small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly the indigenous business sector to enter the export business directly or through joint ventures and technology-transfer arrangements with foreign investors.

The major shareholders of the bank included the largest insurance firm, Old Mutual, the state-owned National Insurance Company of Zimbabwe and the Venture Capital Company of Zimbabwe.

Cote d'Ivoire

Rumors Spreading on Opposition Candidate's Assassination

AB0908181095 Abidjan LE REPUBLICAIN IVOIRIEN in French 9 Aug 95 p6

[Article by Bim Yeti: "Who Wants To Assassinate Alassane Dramane Ouattara?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Who wants to kill Alassane Dramana Ouattara? Are these rumors? People are wondering. In the wake of the 1995 electoral consultations, the imagination runs wild and flies and builds and destroys. When one adds all this to the arrival and the candidacy of Alassane Dramane Ouattara, rumors run wild, a feeling of endless happiness fills one side, and an appalling panic seizes the other side. Rumors circulate in streets and popular restaurants. Rumors circulate in buses. They become frightening sometimes. People take consolation in the idea that these are just rumors, but they are at the same time afraid of the turns the rumors might take.

We are humans, and we must be afraid of rumors, even if they are just rumors, especially when we take into account the adage that says that where there is smoke, there is fire. How is it possible not to get goose flesh when people talk about an attempted assassination on Alassane Dramane Ouattara? Alassane Dramane Ouattara, a man to be killed in cold blood, or to be arrested as soon as he arrives on Ivorian soil on 12 August. It is said that the idea was discussed at a meeting somewhere near Abidjan, at Houphouet-Boigny International Airport in Port Bouet. General Gaston Ouassenan Kone, the highest ranking officer there, was reported to have said when informed of the project, that he "was not imposing anything," and that he was "against such an act." "This would be an unwarranted act," he is quoted as saying. General Tanny and Colonel Bombet were said to have disapproved of such a diabolic act. Already, it is said, Noel Nemin and Constant Bombet have given assurance that they will make every effort to see Mr. Cuattara's candidacy rejected.

Still according to rumors, only Defense Minister Leon Konan Koffi fully agreed with the plan to assassinate Mr. Ouattara. Agents of the Directorate for the Surveillance of the Territory and a unit of the Gendarmerie Brigade, as well as chosen elements from the sharpshooters, were said to have been requisitioned and asked to be on the alert with the appropriate technical arsenal and execution equipment. If these are all just rumors, they have been well planned. Right now, what is not just a rumor is the misinformation campaign. In order to demobilize Mr. Ouattara's supporters, stories are cir-

culating that he is already in Kong to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Prophet Muhammad. This is not true. On the same issue, it is said that every effort is being made to prevent his supporters from going in mass to welcome their candidate. People have gone as far as to say that his supporters will be savagely beaten up at the airport. Nothing will ever reduce the enthusiasm, the affection, and the admiration of Mr. Ouattara's supporters. They can be found in great numbers, even within the Democratic Party of Cote d'Ivoire-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA]. Alassane Dramane Ouattara will arrive in Abidjan on 12 August, early in the afternoon. The previously announced postponement of his arrival will enable his supporters to better prepare his welcoming ceremony. Can anyone blame supporters giving a warm welcome to their candidate? No.

Therefore, we should all be at the airport on 12 August to welcome Alassane Dramane Ouattara. More than us, he is aware of all that is being plotted against him. This will not prevent him from being here on 12 August. We shall accord him a rousing welcome, in accordance with his rank. We should not be afraid of anything, and not play at frightening ourselves. Fear is on the other side. Whatever they say, whatever they do.

[In a related story, Abidjan LA VOIE in French on 9 August on page 2, in an editorial by Aboubacar Sidick Diabate, reports the following: "Information that reached us very late on the night of 7 August said that a meeting was held under the chairmanship of a high ranking official of the ruling party. The aim of the meeting was to polish up a plan that would lead to the arrest of the Rally of the Republicans' candidate. The Machiavellian idea of the planners of this ridiculous plot is to take the opportunity of the arrival of Alassane Dramane Ouattara to perpetrate acts of vandalism, and to then have a fallacious reason to hold Mr. Ouattara responsible for social troubles, before placing him under arrest.

At first, the information seems ridiculous. But our experience as Ivorian journalists in this country, ruled by the PDCI-RDA, has taught us not to reject any information in advance. Especially information that looks like rumors and misinformation."]

Liberia

Next Round of Peace Talks To Begin 15-18 Aug

AB0808204995 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The next round of the Liberian peace talks will take place in the Nigerian capital,

Abuja, from the 15th to the 18th of this month. This was announced by the deputy foreign minister, Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, in Accra today. He said the warring factions will meet from the 15th to the 17th and this is expected to be followed by a ministerial meeting of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West Africa States] Mediation Committee of Nine the following day. Dr. Chambas said it is expected that the factions would have had time to conclude an accord by the time of the ministerial meeting.

He said if there is a final accord, it will be followed shortly by a summit of the committee of nine on a date to be decided later. Dr. Chambas said the factions have considerably narrowed down the differences, and the international community is anxious that these meetings should not again be lost opportunities to restore peace in Liberia. More than 47 meetings and dozen agreements have failed to resolve the Liberian civil war, now in its sixth year.

Nigeria

Ikimi Criticizes U.S. Policy on Contacts

AB0908222095 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Aug 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] With the international spotlight on the Nigerian military Government's handling of the alleged coup plotters and threats of sanctions of some Western governments, the country's foreign minister, Chief Tom Ikimi, has gone on a charm offensive. Last week he was in the United States, and now he is in London. Emily Casreel has been speaking to Chief Tom Ikimi. She asked him first why the coup trial was veiled in such secrecy:

[Begin recording] [Ikimi] Coup making and coup plotting is a military affair. It is only those who are in the rank and file of the military that would be in a position to state what happens within the military. Therefore the evidence of coup plotting and coup making resides within the military itself. I would like to assure that the head of state is quite conscious of all the pleas of clemency which have been made, and the final verdict which will take place will not ignore all these pleas, because as much as the head of state is quite conscious of the peace, stability, and security of our country, he is not oblivious of the concerns of the world community.

[Casreel] It seems to me, sir, somewhat of a strategy of the Nigerian Government. We are getting hints both from you and from articles published in the official media in Nigeria that the head of state, General Sani Abacha, is going to be lenient towards these

coup plotters. You are sort of having this threat, this inside threat that these individuals might face the death penalty, and then you're going to be very, very lenient and actually not lead them to death, so that the international politicians and the international... [Casreel pauses] the world can then applaud you for your generosity.

[Ikimi] What I'm telling you is just to paint the right picture of Gen. Sani Abacha, whom I have worked with now for two years very closely, first as his adviser, and now as his minister for foreign affairs. You may not know him well. This is why we have asked you to come to Nigeria and meet with him. All those who have come to Nigeria and have met with Gen. Abacha have found him a very humane person and someone very considerate. We are not making a plot. What has happened is that there has been a coup, there's been an offense, it has been tried with the laws that were existing, but Nigeria cannot extract itself from the world community. That is why we are reacting positively to world opinion.

[Casreel] I believe that you have just come from the U.S.A., where you were not free to travel, you were not free to go to Washington D.C. You had to restrict your activities to New York city, which is just another sign of the world's displeasure at the events in Nigeria.

[Ikimi] I think it is an error by the United States Government. I think it is an error by the British Government, and I think it is an error for the British Government to influence their partners — the European Union — to take any actions against Nigeria which forbid or make it difficult for high government officials to interact or discuss at the highest level in these countries, and it's ironic that the United States and, perhaps, the United Kingdom will harbor the few Nigerian dissidents and give them free access, the use of their powerful media against another nation, which is a peaceful country - Nigeria. We have common interests in Nigeria: Business interests, bilateral interests, cultural interests, which should ensure or which should have informed the United States and Great Britain to continue to have dialogue with Nigeria. [end recording]

Court Reportedly Adjourns Activists' Hearings

AB0908211895 Paris AFP in English 2012 GMT 9 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Aug 9 (AFP) — The Federal High Court here Wednesday [9 August] adjourned hearings of suits filed by two human rights activists challenging their arrest and detention, judicial sources said.

Both Chima Ubani, secretary of the Lagos-based Democratic Alternative, and Abdul Oroh, the head of the Civil Liberties Organisation, were arrested last month.

They argue that their continued detention is unlawful because it infringes on their fundamantal human rights.

Both cases have been adjourned until later this month

The men's arrests and detention have not been officially confirmed.

Senegal

AFP: Army Inflicts 'Heavy Losses' on Separatists

AB0808211695 Paris AFP in French 1809 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Dakar, 8 Aug (AFP) — An official source in Dakar disclosed today that one Senegalese soldier was killed and five others were wounded last night in southern Senegal during clashes with armed men believed to be members of the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance [MFDC], a separatist movement. The same source disclosed that the Senegalese Army inflicted "heavy losses" on the separatists, but did not give any figures.

The clashes took place in the Babonda Forest, 18 km southeast of Ziguinchor, the Casamance provincial cap-

ital. On 25 July in the same forest, 23 Senegalese soldiers were killed and 14 others wounded by separatists during the biggest ambush ever seen in the region.

According to reliable sources, the Senegalese Army overran the region to try and cut the Casamance separatists off from Guinea-Bissau, where Senegalese authorities claim the separatists fall back after carrying out their attacks. The number of people from Casamance who have sought refuge in camps set up by the UNHCR in Guinea-Buissau stands at 25,000.

Unofficial figures show that the latest clashes bring to 43 the number of civilians, soldiers, and separatists who have been killed in Casamance since MFDC Secretary General Father Augustin Diamacoune Senghor called for a cease-fire on 20 June.

Following the 25 July clashes, several Senegalese newspapers criticized the military command in the southern region, describing the clashes as a military "blunder," and some even termed it a military "disaster." The daily, WAL FADJRI, reported today that the commander in charge of the operation was allegedly arrested in Dakar following investigations initiated by the Army chief of staff. The newspaper also reported accusations lodged by the wounded soldiers against their military command. The soldiers have all been transferred to the main hospital in Dakar.

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